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pletely hidden, and the reader is not a little hindered in his attempt to follow the order of topics.

But all these are minor and comparatively unimportant defects of a very valuable book, for which New Testament students will return sincere thanks to Dr. Vincent.

E. D. B.

The New Testament and Its Writers, being an Introduction to the Books of the New Testament. By Rev. J. A. M'CLYMONT, B.D. New York: A. D. F. Randolph & Co., 1893. Pp. 288. Price, 3s. 6d.

This work is an expansion of a much smaller book published some time ago by the same author under the same title. The original was one of a series of guild and Bible class text-books issued for use in Scotland, and was highly commended as well as widely introduced. All who used the earlier edition, and those who now for the first time make the acquaintance of the book, will heartily approve of Mr. M'Clymont's further work upon the volume. The frontispiece extends over six pages, two of them presenting a good map of the Roman Empire in New Testament times, the other four showing fac-simile specimens of the oldest and most interesting New Testament manuscripts. The first chapter, introductory, discusses the name, language, contents, manuscripts, versions, the canon, textual criticism. Chapter two treats of the gospels collectively, their name, nature, authenticity, origin, diversity, and harmony. Thereafter each book of the New Testament is taken up, in the order of our canon, and discussed as to its authorship, readers, date and place of The position throughout is that of composition, character and contents. scholarly conservatism. The Synoptic Gospels and Acts are all placed before 70 A. D., the Fourth Gospel 85-90 A. D., the Pastoral Epistles 67-68 A. D., James 44-49 A. D., First Peter 64-65 A. D., Second Peter 69-70 A. D., and Revelation about 96 A.D. With reference to the date of the Revelation the author says: "There is now a growing conviction that the theory which dates the composition of the book before the destruction of Jerusalem must be abandoned, and that the persecution referred to is not that which took place at Rome in the reign of Nero, but the sufferings inflicted on Christians at a later date, in the provinces, especially in Asia Minor, when they refused to worship the Emperor and Roma." This is the date for which Professor Ramsay has argued in his recent work, although modern scholars had come to an unusual A reversal of present judgment agreement for the early date (69-70 A.D.) may be at hand, but the question involves so many matters that it needs extended discussion. All of the disputed books are held by the author to be the work of their traditional authors, except that Hebrews is not directly Pauline. The Epistle to the Galatians is put immediately before the Epistle to the Romans, and the Philippian Epistle immediately after it, with dates 57, 58 and 61 respectively. This arrangement, as regards Philippians, was suggested by Bishop Lightfoot and has found some acceptance, but the arguments from

style and situation on which it rests are faced by counter arguments which make it as yet quite unnecessary to abandon the common opinion regarding its position as the latest of the Imprisonment-Epistles.

There are two ways of writing an Introduction to the New Testament. First, to give an elaborate criticism of current views and to present therewith an original construction or interpretation of the facts involved, based upon one's individual scholarship—such as Weiss's Introduction; second, to give a summary of the facts about the New Testament already agreed upon, and a conspectus of the varying views upon important disputed points, with an indication of how the consensus of scholarship decides them—such as Gloag's Introductions. To the latter class belongs Mr. M'Clymont's volume, and in style and manner of treatment it reminds one of Dr. Gloag's works, though of course it is brief and elementary in comparison. Without pretense of independent scholarship, it is a simple, sound, good, attractive popular Introduction, to be favorably compared with the somewhat similar works of Dods, Farrar, Kerr, and others.

c. w. v.

The Parables of Our Lord. Series of Bible Class Primers. By Professor S. D. F. SALMOND, D.D. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark. Imported by Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York, 1893. Pp. 122. Price, 25 cents.

Many of the volumes in this series of Bible Class Primers are of first-rate scholarship, and are very useful to the Bible student and teacher, for example, The Kings of Israel, by Rev. W. Walker; The Historical Connection between the Old and the New Testaments, by Professor John Skinner; The Life of St. John and The Life of Paul, by Dr. P. J. Gloag; and The Life of the Apostle Peter and The Life of Christ, by Professor S. D. F. Salmond, who is also the author of this last Primer, The Parables of Our Lord. The design of the series is an excellent one: to furnish unpretentious and simple but sound and true helps to the study of the Bible. They would be found useful in every Sunday school and Bible class. There is nothing so good for the great majority of Sunday school people whose only diet at present is lesson leaves and quarterlies, through which they can never arrive at an idea of unity or an historical sense in the lives of the biblical personages and narratives. Let such become familiar with the Bible Class Primers, and with these also may be classed the Smaller Cambridge Bible for Schools, imported by Macmillan & Co., of New York.

Professor Salmond's volume on *The Parables of Our Lord* is a plain, truthful, charming presentation of Christ's parables and their meaning. The introductory chapter contains a discussion of the meaning of the word "Parable," its use in teaching previous to Christ's time, the reasons why he adopted it, the characteristics which he gave to the parable, the several groups of Christ's parables, and the principles and aids to the interpretation of them. The